**Student Learning Improvement Team**

**Minutes of meeting 17/02/10**

**Present:** J Trompf, M McGinnity, Y Colquhoun, G Parker, R Schwarz, P King, B Gallagher, D Bowles,

**Apologies:** N.Crawford

Chair – J Trompf

Note Taker – D Bowles

Time Keeper – G Parker

Critical Friend – Y Colquhoun

**Agenda Items:**

* Item 1: Prayer – J Trompf
* Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting moved and accepted – P King, seconded - Y Colquhoun
* Item 7: Proposed meeting dates and tasks presented. Yvette to check and confirm.

Doody CEO Secondary Consultant to attend on 25th March, therefore proposed meeting on 27th to be cancelled.

* Item 3: Mark was invited to attend this meeting to give his views on curriculum, pedagogy, teaching and learning.

Begin with the Strategic Plan – there will be a new one this year. Board has not been too specific yet, but the proposal will be for a 10-15 year plan (4 year cycles). Their aim will be to ‘build back’ from the key question, what will the Monivae graduate of 2025 look like?

Academic excellence is not strong enough, the Board wants improvement. Mark referred to VCE statistics since 1998, the impact of VCAA, National Curriculum and the change in student enrolments (128 – 2009, 90 – 2010) and this is being investigated by the Development Office.

The curriculum is being driven strongly, there is a lot happening quickly in curriculum. There is a huge background to work with.

Impact of technology and this is key for us. There is staff learning and a financial commitment so we must be able to do this well. Discussion re the application and use of technology.

We must not have simple regurgitation. Creativity must be fostered and we are hampered by the VCE in this.

We have the fewest number of teaching days across the country, therefore fewer face-to-face teaching hours. This is a challenge for us and we need to become competitive in this regard. We still need to meet the competitive needs of our students.

Shire numbers – reducing school age students in the population.

We have a product to sell.

2009 Student Leaders perceptions of the time table – eg. length of periods, organization of the day, homerooms – are they needed every morning? Yet another challenge for Monivae.

Rhythm for students is important- 9 day cycle was discussed re this.

This committee should continue with the work but know that the Board will set their goals later. We could begin with the Vertical Curriculum and structures.

Planning for this committee to be based on a ‘fresh start’

‘What is value adding?’ is a key question.

* Item 4: We felt that this had already been discussed and, as we were short of time, we moved to Item 5.
* Item 5: Discussion of the Staff Feedback re curriculum

Explanation of the findings, overview, comments and impressions

The feedback did not provide great innovation

The issue is ‘ not what the problem is, but rather how we will tackle it’

Suggestions:

* Understanding by Design
* Careful how we feed the results back to staff – could we feedback with an activity that reflects the findings?
* Yvette’s activity – ‘What do we want Year 7 graduates to look like?’ This idea was discussed and developed
* There was nothing new in the data collected.
* Item 6: How will we spend our time at the next Staff Meeting?

We will present 5 statements (these to come out of the data collection) – as follows:

1. VCE subjects – prescribed 50 hours face-to-face teaching time. We are below this.
2. A teacher is required to teach
3. Other schools have 178 days of teaching. We are a lot less.
4. To be developed by B Gallagher
5. To be developed by B Gallagher

B Gallagher to present these questions on an overhead.

This strategy to be completed and confirmed at our next meeting.

* What are other schools doing with their Headstart program? – to be continued.
* Tasks to be done before next meeting o 16/03/10:

1. B Gallagher to prepare powerpoint
2. Y Colquhoun to prepare current curriculum document and statistics